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Wilson

A former employee of ex- CIA agent Edwin Wilson testified Saturday that Wilson threatened to kill both him and federal prosecutor Larry Barcella if he returned from Libya to testify against his ex-boss.

"He (Wilson) told me he could not advise me because it would be an obstruction of justice," John Heath testified Wilson told him two weeks ago. "But he said if I talked to Barcella, he was dead and so was I."

It was the first time the alleged contract killings of prosecutors and witnesses in the Wilson case have been mentioned in open court. In addition to the chief prosecutor, assistant U.S. attorney Carol Bruce and four other witnesses were named on a hit list allegedly handwritten by Wilson from his New York jail cell last month.

Heath, who spent 21 years in the military as a bomb specialist, said he went to work for Wilson in 1976. He described an incident in which he was ordered by Wilson to hand deliver two buckets of a highly explosive putty-like substances to the Libyan embassy in London. The containers were smuggled from Libya through Rotterdam and into London. Dutch officials have been monitoring the trial in the Houston courtroom this week.

Wilson, 54, is being tried for conspiring to smuggle explosives to Libyan terrorists. He maintains he was working for the federal government at the time, feeding top secret information to the CIA. Federal officials deny Wilson was working for them.

Heath quit working for Wilson about two weeks ago. During the time he was employed by Wilson his code name was "Silver Fox," probably referring to his silver-white hair.

He described how Wilson had requested him to make letter bombs, but he refused.

"It was against my moral principles. I indicated I definitely did not want to do this," Heath said, explaining it is equally dangerous to build a letter bomb than to open one.

"He said if you help me out this one last time, buddy, I'll make it worth your while," Heath said. He also said Wilson promised to "make me a millionaire like he did (former aide Douglas) Schlacter."

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